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U.S. House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
Washington, DC 20515

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Executive Registry

86- 2911X

June 28, 1986

MEMORANDUM

FROM: REP. LES ASPIN (D-WIS.)

RE: STICKING TO SALT II LIMITATIONS

I have launched an all-out strategy to get the President to pay serious attention to the SALT treaties.

First, I am supporting a resolution calling on the President to continue adherence to the SALT limits. And, if that doesn't convince him, I will cosponsor an amendment to the Defense Authorization bill which will require the President to stick with SALT.

The attached will explain my reasons for being a strong opponent of the President's decision to bail out of SALT.

DANTE B. FASCELL, Florida, Chairman

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JOHN J. BRADY, JR.
Chief of Staff

Congress of the United States

Committee on Foreign Affairs

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

June 11, 1986

Dear Colleague:

A bipartisan group of 37 House Members (11 Republicans and 26 Democrats) have joined me today as original co-sponsors of H.Con. Res. 350 legislation calling upon the President to continue adherence to the SALT limits for as long as the Soviet Union does likewise.

We view this as a major policy statement in support of superpower adherence to the SALT agreements because it enhances vital U.S. national security interests and precludes an opportunity for the Soviet Union to more than double their nuclear arsenal.


Before a hearing held by my Arms Control Subcommittee this past April, former Secretary of Defense Harold Brown encouraged continued U.S. adherence to the SALT agreements and stated that the Soviets have more "hot production" lines for strategic weapons than the United States, enabling the Soviets to quickly replace single warhead missiles with multiple warhead missiles.

This resolution is an attempt to continue mutual superpower adherence to the constraints contained in the the SALT agreements as we pursue further reductions in the nuclear arsenals of both superpowers at the Geneva Arms Control Talks.

If you wish to co-sponsor this resolution, please contact any of the following committee staff: Carol Glassman (X5-5043), Jo Weber (X5-8926), or Jennifer Grant-Fohl (X5-5021).

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



Dante B. Fascell
Chairman

(SEE TEXT OF RESOLUTION ON REVERSE SIDE)

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

June 16, 1986

Dear Colleague:

As you know the President's recent decision to abandon the SALT treaties has generated a great deal of concern among many of us. Dante Fascell's resolution asking that the President abide by the SALT II limitations is expected to be considered on the floor this Thursday.

Attached is a set of facts related to SALT which have led me to be a strong supporter of Dante's resolution and a strong opponent of the President's decision to bail out of SALT.

Sincerely,


Les Aspin
Chairman
Committee on Armed Services

SOVIET NON-COMPLIANCE

The administration has charged the Soviets with only three major violations:

SS-25 mobile missile: As a second new missile, the SS-25 may well be a violation, but it is unnecessary to demand correcting this problem as a condition of interim restraint. The administration admits that this violation is irreversible. In addition, there is widespread support for deployment of the Midgetman ICBM. The Midgetman would be an appropriate response to the SS-25 because, when tested, it would violate the same SALT provisions.

Encryption of telemetry data: While encryption is a problem, it will be more of a problem if the Soviets encrypt without any restraint when we break out of SALT entirely. We can appropriately respond by partially encrypting our own data and funding other intelligence means to get us the data we lose from Soviet encryption.

Krasnoyarsk Radar: The radar is probably a violation of the ABM Treaty but the Soviets could have located it on their border, making it legal and equal (or greater) in military effectiveness. We can best respond by continuing SDI research to hedge against a Soviet ABM breakout, by deploying penetration aids to foil Soviet ABM defenses, and by targeting the Krasnoyarsk radar for nuclear destruction, should a nuclear war break out.

FUTURE

NO-SALT WORLD

The Soviets have two major advantages which, absent SALT, will allow them to spurt forward with force increases faster than the U.S.

Hot production lines: The Soviets have higher capacity hot production lines for strategic forces. They are producing eight major new strategic systems, including two new ICBM's, two new bombers, two new SSBNs (ballistic-missile submarines), and two new SLBMs. The U.S., in contrast, is only producing three such systems--one new ICBM (MX), one new bomber (B-1), and one new submarine (Trident). Soviet deployed strategic weapons could grow by 65% by the end of 1989 compared with a U.S. growth of only 45%.

Throw weight advantages: Greater throw weight of Soviet intercontinental ballistic missiles could allow warheads to grow from 6,690 to 14,892 warheads on existing missiles, or 2.2 times current levels.